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WHEN GRANT RETURNED.

The magnificent reception accorded former President Roosevelt on his return home after an absence of fifteen months in foreign lands, brings to mind the fact that once before in the history of the country a former chief magistrate was welcomed to the land of his birth by millions of his fellow citizens.

A little over thirty years ago Ulysses S. Grant, twice president of the United States, and the great captain of the victorious army of the Union in the civil war, landed at San Francisco after an absence of two years and four months.

General Grant had completed a tour around the world, and traveled over nearly thirty great nations, being received with marked distinction by the rulers and the people of every land visited. The demonstrations abroad in his honor were not so elaborate as in the case of Colonel Roosevelt, for General Grant was a man of deeds rather than words, shy and unobtrusive by nature, and much given to keeping out of the limelight whenever possible.

Nevertheless, honors were showered upon him continuously as he made his way through Europe and Asia, his fame as a soldier having preceded him in every instance.

Thirty years ago the United States was on the eve of a presidential election, and excitement was at fever heat. James G. Blaine was the foremost Republican candidate for the nomination, but was bitterly opposed by a certain element in the party.

The battle was already on when General Grant arrived at San Francisco. He had not figured in the political contest, and there was not the least suspicion that he would be a factor in the struggle. As in the case of Colonel Roosevelt, the people of the entire country welcomed him home, and his trip from the Pacific to the Atlantic was marked by a series of triumphal processions and shouting multitudes.

The wounds caused by the war between the states were rapidly healing, and no man stood higher in the estimation of his fellow citizens, both north and south, than General Grant. His exclamation at the close of the bloody struggle, "Let us have peace," had endeared him to every heart.

Then a grave mistake was made. Taking advantage of the great popularity of General Grant, those opposed to Mr. Blaine put the silent soldier in the field as a candidate for the presidency for a third term, with the result that both were defeated for the nomination and General Grant suffered in fame and prestige for the time being.

It is different this time. The presidential election does not occur until 1912, two long years, and there is no danger of the welcome accorded Colonel Roosevelt being misunderstood as in the case of General Grant.

PASSING OF TILLMAN.

According to the generally accepted view, Senator Benjamin F. Tillman of South Carolina will retire from public life at the close of his present term, the precarious state of his health being the reason generally given.

Senator Tillman has had a stormy career in politics, beginning with his election as governor of South Carolina in 1890. He was the "farmer" candidate at that time, and was nominated by the Democrats after a bitter fight.

Upon gaining the upper hand in his home state, Tillman at once made war upon the aristocracy in the party as represented by Wade Hampton and M. C. Butler, and finally succeeded the latter as United States senator, taking his seat March 4, 1895.

For awhile Tillman kept himself before the country by his uncouth manners and eccentric habits. His "pitchfork" was ready at any and all times, and he was nearly always involved in personal difficulties during the early part of his career in the Senate. Of late years he has quieted down and made many friends among his colleagues.

His health broke down two years ago and he traveled abroad under the care of a physician. When he returned and took his seat it was noticed that he had not regained his former vigor. A short time ago he suffered a stroke of paralysis, and since that time has been afflicted with rheumatism.

As is usual in cases where an old antagonist begins to fail physically, the old feeling against Tillman has been revived in South Carolina, and an attempt will be made to wrest his toga from him in case he does not quit the field.

Evidently the Senate is undergoing a transformation. Senators Aldrich and Hale have signified their intention of retiring from public life when their present terms end. Cullom of Illinois has passed the four-score mark and cannot long survive, while the seats of others, such as Burrows of Michigan, are being contested by younger men. These are all Republicans.

On the Democratic side John Sharp Williams has already been elected to take the place of Money, who has spent long years in the Senate; Taliaferro has been beaten in the primaries in Florida, and Senator Daniel is a hopeless invalid. With the passing of these men and Senator Tillman the change in the upper chamber will be marked so far as the minority is concerned.

With the retirement of leaders of both parties new men will come to the front, and in the course of a few months we will enter upon an entirely new era so far as the Senate is concerned.

WILL ENTER CAMPAIGN.

President Taft, who surprised the country by his ability as a campaign orator two years ago, has signified his intention of taking the stump in the congressional elections this fall, and will be heard in defense of the Republican party and his administration of public affairs in those states where insurgents are supposed to abound.

Being the titular head of the party, the President no doubt feels that his position as such demands active participation in the campaign. At any rate, he is going to participate and give the Democrats a Roland for every one of their Olivers.

President Taft had little experience in practical politics up to the time he entered the cabinet of Mr. Roosevelt, but he made a wonderfully good showing on the stump when he finally turned himself loose and told the people what he proposed to do, and how he proposed to do it.

Since that time he has been in close touch with the affairs of the nation as chief executive, and the knowledge gained in the White house will serve him well when he goes forth to meet the enemy this fall. Whether the fight is upon the tariff, conservation, the railroad bill or any other live issue of the present time, President Taft will be able to hold up his end.

The news that he is to take part in the campaign will be welcome to the regular Republicans, and ought to put the fear of God into the hearts of the insurgents, if any such remain, as election draws nigh.

It would not be surprising if former President Roosevelt, scenting battle from afar, should also go out upon the stump and deal a few of those sledge-hammer blows for which he is famed the world over. Perhaps we should say it would be surprising if the colonel did not do that very thing.

With the prospect of President Taft and former President Roosevelt taking an active part in the campaign, the outlook is very pleasing to the true-blue Republicans, for where in the name of heaven will the Democrats be able to find champions of sufficient calibre to oppose them?

THE PATTEN INDICTMENT.

The department of justice has again given evidence of its intention to put a stop to the crooked work of some of the stock, grain, cotton and other gamblers. James A. Patten and seven smaller sharks have been indicted by a federal grand jury on a charge of conspiracy.

The indictments are the result of the bull movement in cotton, the government claiming that arbitrary, excessive and monopolistic prices were charged for cotton in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The attorney general believes, and most of the victims agree with him, that the present high prices of the necessaries of life are due in part to the manipulation of the markets by the speculators, and he proposes to put a stop to the practice by the enforcement of the Sherman act.

Owing to the rapid increase of population in the United States, it is quite natural that there should have been some advance in prices, and no complaint would be made were it not for the fact that the combinations have been entirely too hoggish in the premises.

In order to make political capital, the Democrats are in the habit of asserting that the protective tariff system is responsible for the high prices in this country, but as prices have also advanced in free trade England, the fallacy of such argument is apparent.

Moreover, the investigation of the special Senate committee turned up evidence showing that the cold storage companies and combinations all along the line until the consumer was reached were responsible for the high cost of living, the speculators aiding in the work of robbery.

With this evidence before him, Attorney General Wickersham, by direction of President Taft, has undertaken to put a stop to this grinding of the faces of the poor. The indictment of the cotton speculators is but part of a general plan to bring all offenders of this kind to the bar of justice.

Of course the cry will go up, as it always does in similar cases, that the legitimate business of the country will be disturbed by the prosecution of these violators of the law. It is a false assumption, but even if it were true, it would be no good reason why barefaced robbery should be allowed to continue.

The administration is acting on behalf of the millions of American citizens who are powerless to protect themselves and look to those in authority to enforce the law and lift the burdens from their backs. This the President and attorney general have set out to do.

Some time ago Mr. Patten announced that he was about to retire from active business for the purpose of taking a rest. If the indictment against him holds good, the government will furnish a safe and secure retreat where he can while the happy hours away.

CHEAP LABOR IN BELGIUM.

The canning industry has reached immense proportions in the United States, its products, particularly meats, being shipped all over the world. Other countries, however, are engaged in the same industry, and some of the factories do an enormous business.

As an example, there is a canning factory at Malines, in Belgium, with a larger output than any similar institution in either France or Germany.

The establishment produces the highest grade of canned goods, especially peas, beans and asparagus. Of peas alone 5,000,000 cans are turned out in a busy season. The total exports from all Belgium are over 2,000,000 cases of canned goods. Belgium seems to have secured the best canning trade of Europe, and the Malines factory also receives orders from many American cities.

According to the consular reports, this factory employs during the busy season of six weeks, beginning in May, about 400, of whom 300 are women; the latter receive 40 cents and the men 60 cents, but all seem thrifty and contented.

If the fruit and vegetables are proportionately as cheap as the labor employed, the Belgian goods ought to find their way into all the markets. We pay more for labor in this country and the raw material comes higher, so we couldn't compete in many cases. It is a matter of fact, however, that American canned fruits are sold even in Belgium.

GOOD ROADS.

The people of Montana are holding a good roads convention at Billings in that state, in which much interest is being taken. We had a similar gathering here in Utah a short time since, in which delegates from Idaho participated, and we believe great good was accomplished at that meeting.

Before the advent of the railroads the subject of good roads was of paramount importance in the United States. During the administration of Thomas Jefferson, in 1806, commissioners were appointed to lay out a national highway.

This highway, usually called the old Cumberland road, ran from Cumberland, Md., which is close to Washington, by way of Cincinnati to St. Louis. The latter city was the only place of importance in the west in the early part of the last century, which accounts for the road being built in that direction.

President Jefferson sent a message to Congress in advocacy of good roads, and in making a plea for this national highway, said: "In this way we may accomplish a continuous and advantageous line of communication from the seat of the general government to St. Louis, passing through several very interesting points of the western country."

The road was built, but it did not endure, although the "corduroy" part of it is still remembered in the section of country through which it passed.

After the railroads began to traverse the country the subject of good roads was lost sight of for many decades. In recent years interest has been revived, and all over the country more or less is being done to further the movement.

That the politicians have realized the importance of the work is evidenced by a plank in the national platform of the Republican party in 1908, which says: "We recognize the social and economic advantages of good country roads maintained more and more largely at the public expense and less and less at the expense of abutting property owners."

The Democrats followed suit, and the following declaration is made in the Denver platform: "We favor federal aid to state local authority in the construction and maintenance of post roads."

There being no political difference on the subject, such conventions as the one held in Salt Lake and the one now going on at Billings ought to be productive of something substantial in view of the fact that federal aid has been promised by both great parties.

GOOD WORK WELL DONE.

The action of the lower House of Congress in agreeing to the conference reports on the railroad and statehood bills will meet the approval of the people of the country. Both measures now go to the President for signature, which they are certain to receive.

In view of the passage of these two bills, the leaders in Congress have predicted an adjournment of the present session by June 23, next Thursday.

When the warm weather arrives in Washington the average minority congressman realizes that the time has come to go home, and he ceases to raise foolish objections to every bill that comes up, so needed legislation nearly always gets through at the tail end of the session.

No dissenting voice was raised when the motion was made that the House concur in the Senate amendments to the railroad bill, and the same was true when the statehood measure came up. Both were passed with a whoop, and members of all shades of political opinion felicitated themselves upon the result.

There are several other important measures awaiting the action of Congress, so if adjournment is had by next Thursday rapid work will be necessary in order that nothing be left undone.

Republicans have reason to feel proud of the record of their members in Congress at the present session.

THE LAST STRAW.

An attendant at a Kansas institute for the deaf and dumb was undergoing a pointless rapid-fire inquisition at the hands of a female visitor.

"But how do you summon these poor mutes to church?" she asked finally, with what was meant to be a pitying glance at the inmates near by.

"By ringing the dumb-bells, madam," retorted the exasperated attendant.—Judge.

A RARE YAWN.

It is no doubt his passion for accuracy that has made Mr. Sambourne's studies of lions and elephants the delight of students of animal life.

There is a story told of a lady who was one day looking at one of these—a lion yawning—and who remarked: "How very good! How true to nature."

But Mr. Sambourne, to whom the remark was made, did not tell her that for fourteen days he had visited the zoo, waiting for the lion to oblige with a yawn.—M. A. P.

TOO MUCH TO EXPECT.

Mrs. Hiram Offen—I like your appearance; I'm sure you're a very respectable girl, and—

Applicant (haughtily interrupting)—Indeed! you needn't to expect that at all—

Mrs. Hiram Offen—What! You mean to say you aren't respectable?

Applicant—Oh! I thought you said "respectful."—Catholic Standard and Times.